

Milestones and Ideas - 24-36 Months

For Speech and Language Development

Milestones

- Beginning to use 2 - 3 word sentences (i.e. "Me do it")
- Uses 'self-centered' pronouns like 'I', 'me', 'mine' and 'you'
- Answers simple questions like "What's your name?"
- Understands differences in meaning (i.e. "up" vs. "down")
- Likes to play in parallel to other children
- Asks questions using 'who', 'what' and 'where'
- Parents understand 50-75% of what child says

Communication Ideas

Play I Spy

While in the car or on the bus play this version of "I Spy." You say, "I spy with my eye a black dog." Then your child tries to find what you spied. Now your child has a turn spying something. Remember to "spy" things your child can see from his car seat. You might also try "I hear with my ear", when you hear a sound like a lawn mower, or bike bell, birds or a barking dog.

Little You

Your child will love to hear stories about when he was little. Tell him stories about when he was born or when he was just a little baby. He will want to hear them over and over again.

Forgetful Me

Pretend that you have forgotten the names of everyday things. Point to a cup and ask your child, "is that a spoon?" Your child will think you are being very silly, let him tell you what it really is. Pretend to be surprised and let your child "teach" you the right names.

What's Happening?

When looking at pictures in books or magazines, ask your child what is happening in the picture. "What is the Mommy doing?" "What is the puppy doing?" Encourage your child to tell you a story of what they think is happening.

Cooking Helper

Let your child help out in the kitchen. Your child could measure, pour, stir ingredients, and tear salad greens. Always tell him, "Thank you for helping."

Warning Signs: Does your child show frustration when trying to talk?
Do you have difficulty understanding your child's speech?
Does your child put 2 words together?

